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INFORMATION REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

CD NO.

COUNTRY Philippines

25X1C8

DATE DISTR. 31 JAN 51

Possibility That 7th Battalion Combat Team Has Filed Wisleading Reports on Conduct of Anti-HIB Campaign

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PLACE

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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INFO.

- High officials of the Philippine Ground Forces (PGF) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have begun an unofficial investigation to determine whether or not reports of HLB casualties which have been filed by the 7th Battalion Combat Team (BCT) are accurate. This unit is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Hopoleon Valeriano.*
- 2. The following is a comparison of reports from the 7th BCT with those of other active BCTs of the First and Second Military Area: "

4th BCT: 51 HAB personnel killed in action 670 arus captured.

900 arms captured. 5th BCT: 64 HLB personnel killed in action

81 IIIB personnel killed in action 25X1A10 arms captured, *** 7th BCT:

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reported that Valeriano reportedly was Comment. scheduled to go to Korea with the 20th BCT as part of an alleged effort by President Quirino to rid the Army of mutinous elements. reported that various observers who have visited the 7th BCT have claimed that the unit appeared to be exceptionally alert, aggressive, and battleworthy. reported that Valeriano estimated in December 1950 that the carraign of LED forces in Luzon had been set reported that Valeriano estimated back 12 months as a result of 7th BCT operations. that under the recent AFP reorganization, Valeriano was scheduled to become Chief of the First Lilitary Area with command of five BCTs.

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There is no indication of the period covered by Comment. these figures.

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Comment. In view of the small number of arms captured by the 7th BCT, military leeders, including Lieutenant Colonel Eulogio Balao, believe that Valeriano has been padding the totals of HLD personnel his unit has killed in action. Valeriano's unit also has captured fewer HLB documents than the other active BCTs. Previous indications that Valeriano's unit was in complete control of the HLB situation in Bulacan may thus have been overstated, according to PGF officials.

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